

If the Old World insect eaters in the Muscicapidae are of Afrotropical origin, such a view would be consistent with the concept of a parallel radiation of the Timaliidae in Asia as a sister group. It also remains highly probable that some present-day Palaearctic species, such as the European Robin *Erithacus rubecula*, form an integral part of the same evolutionary focus of erithacine genera; however, it is beyond the scope of the present discussion to consider the implications of relationships of this type amongst Palaearctic elements. It suffices to remember that the earlier Tertiary avifauna of Europe had strong Afrotropical affinities and included representatives of now wholly tropical families (Olson 1985). It would be surprising therefore if parts of extra-tropical Europe had not played a role in the early diversification of the Muscicapidae and that some of their descendants were not still part of the present-day Palaearctic avifauna.

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Some range extensions and other unusual records of Andean birds

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The knowledge of distribution of Neotropical birds is still fragmentary. A recent upsurge of interest in Andean birds has led to numerous range extensions, discovery of new taxa, and above all an impression of disjunct distributions, even of widespread taxa (see e.g. Graves 1985). Yet, areas

without easy access by road must be regarded as largely unknown, and only the few, traditional collecting sites can be considered at all well surveyed.

Four expeditions by the present authors led to some new distributional data that fell outside the scopes of the main expedition reports (see reference list in Fjeldså 1985). Some of these, representing mainly altitudinal and horizontal range extensions, are compiled here. The field work comprises travels by Krabbe (with O. Jakobsen) from September 1978 to April 1979 in Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, Brazil and Argentina, and from June to October 1983 and March to July 1984 in Ecuador and Peru, by Fjeldså from September 1977 to February 1978 in Peru (with J. E. Wasmuth), September to October 1981 in the Eastern Andes of Colombia, October to December 1981 in Peru, Chile and Argentina (with O. H. Post and D. Boertmann), and finally by both authors together from November 1983 to February 1984 in Peru, Bolivia and Argentina. Most studies were in well known areas, but a few, previously unexplored or poorly known sites were also visited, e.g. the southeastern part of Cordillera Zapote Najda (first camp on north bank of Río Culebrillas, c. $78^{\circ}35'15''\text{W}$, $3^{\circ}1'6''\text{S}$, second camp on south bank of Río Culebrillas, c. $78^{\circ}31'5''\text{W}$, $3^{\circ}0'55''\text{S}$), and the Cutucú Mts, both in Morona-Santiago SE Ecuador, El Placer in northern Esmeraldas, NW Ecuador at c. $78^{\circ}35'\text{W}$, $0^{\circ}53'\text{N}$, Cordillera Condor in N Peru, and the barren basaltic plateau Meseta de Strobel between Lakes Strobel and Cardiel, Sta Cruz, Argentina. Some of the collected specimens have been compared directly to specimens in ANSP, AMNH and LSUMZ (abbreviations explained in acknowledgements).

TITICACA FLIGHTLESS GREBE *Rollandia microptera*

On 21 Dec 1983 c. 50 adults and juveniles were seen on Laguna Capisco between Lake Arapa and the Huancane river N of Lake Titicaca, Peru. Not seen here or in neighbouring lakes in 1977. Probably sometimes spreads across flooded diluvial plains in periods of exceptionally high water level and establishes (temporary?) small breeding populations outside the known range (Río Desaguadero and Lakes Titicaca, Umayo and Arapa).

CATTLE EGRET *Ardeola ibis*

Can now be seen on most large areas of rushy pastureland in the northern Andean highlands, especially during the northern hemisphere winter. Forages all over the Bogotá and Ubaté savannas in Colombia. On 11 Oct 1981, over 1000 were counted near a roost in Laguna Herrera. Regularly present around Lake Junín at 4080 m in Junín, central Peru (Fjeldså 1983), and it now breeds there annually in small numbers (F. Tueros Aldana). On 13 Nov 1983, J.F. saw 3 nests from which young had just fledged. Although many Cattle Egrets seen in the Andes may be migrants and non-breeding immatures from N America, evidently from this record sedentary Andean populations occur as well. Other potential nesting areas (judging from the presence of birds and suitable habitat) are Pampa de Anta at 3200 m near Cuzco, and the Titicaca area, 3840 m.

GREAT EGRET *Egretta alba*

Visits lakes throughout the Andean puna zone, but has not been recorded nesting. A few pairs annually make unsuccessful breeding attempts at Lake Junín (F. Tueros Aldana).

LITTLE BLUE HERON *Egretta caerulea*

Wanders to several wetlands in Depts. Cundinamarca and Boyacá, Colombia, up to 3015 m at Lake Tota. Only single birds are seen. One adult photographed 14 Dec 1983 at Lake Tungasuca, 3750 m, Cuzco, Peru.

WHITE-CHEEKED PINTAIL *Anas bahamensis*

On 7 Nov 1981, 4 adults of this mainly subtropical species were seen near Punta Arenas in Magellanic Chile. One was also seen 11 Dec in Río Gallegos, Sta Cruz, Argentina. Blake (1977) mentions La Pampa Argentina and Bío-Bío Chile as the southern limit, but Venegas (1979) mentions records in the Magellanic zone.

RED SHOVELER *Anas platalea*

Single drakes noted 23 Nov 1977 in Lake Umayo near Puno, and 13 Dec 1983 in Lake Moina, 27 km east of the town of Cuzco, Peru. In both cases Blue-winged Teal *Anas cyanoptera* were near for comparison. Although apparently rather sparse as a breeding bird in the southernmost part of the continent, we found enormous moult assemblies Nov-Feb at 700-1200 m on the upland plateau inland of Sta Cruz. Extrapolation from a census of 118 lakes Feb 1984 on Meseta de Strobel suggested c. 20,000 birds on this plateau alone.

ROSY-BILLED POCHARD *Netta peposaca*

Recorded by Blake (1977) south only to Río Negro, 41°S, in Argentina. However, it is known S to Magellanes, Chile (Venegas 1979), and may be expanding its range. Common near Punta Arenas at the western end of the Magellanic strait, Nov 1981. One pair seen 12 December 1981 in Río Gallegos, Magellanic Argentina. Not uncommon as a spring visitor to lakes at 700-1000 m near the base of the Patagonian Andes (Lange 1981, and information from rangers of Fundacion Vida Silvestre). In Dec 1981, altogether 44 birds were seen at 6 out of 18 lakes visited on the foothill plateau immediately south of Río Santa Cruz.

MAGELLANIC PLOVER *Pluvianellus socialis*

Jehl (1975) estimated a total of 1000 birds, breeding only in Magellanic lowlands. In recent years has nested regularly at Laguna de Escarchados (c. 5 pairs) and Laguna Salinas at 700 m immediately S of Río Santa Cruz (e.g. Lange 1981), and on a basaltic meseta near Laguna Viedma (A. Johnson), all inland localities. The visit in Feb 1984 suggested c. 100 pairs breeding at 800-1200 m on Meseta de Strobel.

BLACK-NECKED STILT *Himantopus mexicanus*

Recorded from few highland sites; no information about breeding. Nesting colonies of 8-10 pairs occur annually outside the village of Ondores at Lake Junín (F. and J. Tueros Aldana). 21 birds (including juveniles) in Lake Tungasuca, Cuzco, Peru, and numerous birds on the plains around Ríos Huancane and Ramis near Lake Titicaca, suggest possible breeding here as well. Most birds correspond to nominate *mexicanus*, but some *melanurus*-like and intermediate individuals were seen in the 2 last mentioned areas.

GREY PLOVER *Pluvialis squatarola*

One seen near Lake Junín, Junín, Peru, 23 Nov 1983, is the third record from the puna zone. Said to occur here regularly with Lesser Golden Plover *Pluvialis dominica*, Feb-Mar (F. Tueros Aldana).

LESSER GOLDEN PLOVER *Pluvialis dominica*

A bird in winter plumage was photographed and tape-recorded at Laguna del Limpio, 3850 m, at the foot of Volcán Cotopaxi, Cotopaxi, Ecuador, 9 Oct 1983. Documented records in the high Andes are few (but see Fjeldså 1983).

SEMIPALMATED PLOVER *Charadrius semipalmatus*

One seen on 15 Dec 1977 at Laguna Lagunillas, 4160 m, western Puno, Peru, is the second record from the puna zone.

WHIMBREL *Numenius phaeopus*

One seen on 5 Jan 1984 at the northern end of Lake Poopó, Oruro, Bolivia, 3680 m, is the first record for Bolivia, and the second for the high Andes (Fjeldså 1983).

FRANKLIN'S GULL *Larus pipixcan*

In recent years seen at several localities away from the Pacific coast. Additional records: Lake Junín (see Fjeldså 1983), one on 23 Nov 1977 at Lake Umayo, and a few hundred Dec 1977 at Lake Lagunillas, both in Puno, Peru; 3 adults photographed in the harbour of Comodoro Rivadavia, Chubut, Argentina, 22 Feb 1984. Together with observations in Córdoba, Argentina (Nores & Yzurieta 1980), the impression is of a regular dispersal from Peru across the Andes to the Argentinian coast.

LARGE-BILLED TERN *Phaetusa simplex*

Known only as a casual visitor to the highlands, but local people knew it as regular (seasonal?) at Lake Tota (3015 m), Cundinamarca, Colombia. 1-4 seen here daily, Sep 1981 by J.F.

RUFUS-BELLIED SEEDSNIPE *Attagis gayi*

On 15 and 21 Aug 1983, 2 flocks, of 60 and 70 birds, were seen and tape-recorded at a large *Distichlis* bog below a glacier in Junín, Peru, c. 3 km from the border of the Dept. of Lima, at 4600-4650 m. They were feeding on the neighbouring slopes, and regularly flew over the bog, but even when the 2 flocks flew close past one another, they did not mix. A flock of 19 and a group of 4 birds were seen at the same site, 11-13 Nov 1983. Large flocks thus seem to be a seasonal phenomenon, as also noted in White-bellied Seedsnipe *A. malouinus* (Johnson 1965). *A. gayi* is poorly known and has not previously been recorded in groups of more than 4 birds.

DARK-BILLED CUCKOO *Coccyzus melacoryphus*

One seen, 24 Oct 1978, presumably a lost austral migrant, at close range for over 5 minutes, at 3600 m, above the town of Cuzco, Peru. Normally found in the tropical, occasionally subtropical zone (Schauensee 1971).

CHIMNEY SWIFT *Chaetura pelagica*

Up to 5 seen in the town of Cuzco, Peru, at 3500 m, on 1 and 6 Dec 1983. Mr B. Walker, resident in Cuzco, informed us that the birds arrived on 25 Nov, and that he had never seen the species there during his 5 years of residence. Known to migrate along the Peruvian coast as far south as Mollendo, Arequipa, where it is always seen on southward migration (R. A. Hughes). Not yet recorded in Chile.

BUFF-TAILED SICKLEBILL *Eutoxeres condamini*

Usually regarded as an upper tropical and subtropical species (e.g. Parker *et al.* 1982), but 3 males with medium developed testes and fresh plumage (one still in body moult) were collected at 2760 m in roadside second growth in temperate forest 4 Aug 1983, above the Carpathian tunnel, Carpathian Mts., Huánuco, Peru.

GREENISH PUFFLEG *Haplophaedia aureliae*

5 males and 1 female were collected at 1700-2100 m in the central part of the previously unexplored Cutucú Mts, Morona-Santiago, SE Ecuador by the

Zoological Museum of University of Copenhagen (ZMUC), Apr 1984, and by ANSP, Jun-Jul 1984. On average they are darker- and more coppery-rumped, and have broader, greyish white (rather than buffy) scaling on the underparts than 12 males and 4 females of *russata* from NE Ecuador (Río Pastaza, lower Sumaco, Oyacachi, "Ecuador"). There is no difference in measurements. While 5 Cutucú birds have rumps of a darker coppery tone than any *russata*, *caucensis*, or *aureliae* examined, one Cutucú male can in this respect be matched by 1 (of 16) *russata*, 3 (of 18) *caucensis*, and 2 (of 12) *aureliae*. The Cutucú female has the puffs wholly white like 4 females of *russata*, while only 2 out of 8 females of *caucensis* share this character, the remaining 6 having at least some buff admixed. The width of the scaling below in *caucensis* varies considerably, from almost absent to as wide as in Cutucú birds, and in both *aureliae* and *caucensis* the scaling varies from buff to greyish white. Cutucú birds come closest to *caucensis*, though the latter averages whiter on the belly, and with narrower, often buffy scaling on the underparts. The geographic variation thus involves a "leap-frog" element (cf. Remsen 1984). In *H. aureliae* the 8 forms currently recognized differ from one another in bill length, copperiness, puff colour, width and colour of the ventral scaling, and whiteness of the belly (Hartert 1900, Zimmer 1951, Schuchmann 1978, Romero 1979). As over 75% of the Cutucú birds are separable, a case can be held for giving them subspecific rank; but rather than adding yet another poorly differentiated form to this array on the basis of 6 specimens, we tentatively place Cutucú birds with *caucensis* until further material is available, thus allowing for greater variation in that form. An undescribed form with very heavy greyish white scaling below occurs in S Ecuador (R. Bleiweiss), and the Cutucú birds may show closer affinities to that form, than to *caucensis*.

MOUNTAIN AVOCETBILL *Opisthoprora euryptera*

A male collected at 3100 m on 13 Jun 1984, at the first camp in Cordillera Zapote Najda, SE Ecuador is the southernmost record of the nominate form. Does not seem to occur on Cerro Chinguela, north Cajamarca, Peru (Parker *et al.* 1985). A new subspecies is being described from south of Río Marañon (G. Graves).

LANCEOLATED MONKLET *Micromonacha lanceolata*

One seen and photographed, 25 Oct 1983, by the railroad, c. 1 km from Lita, Imbabura, Ecuador. First seen by Paul Greenfield. There is a previous sight record from Tinalandia, Pichincha (P. Greenfield), but this represents the first documented record of the species west of the Andes.

YELLOW-VENTED WOODPECKER *Veniliornis dignus*

One was collected on the crest of the central Cutucú Mts, at 2100 m, Morona-Santiago, SE Ecuador, 22 Apr 1984. It differs both from 2 specimens from Cauca and Narino, Colombia, and from 3 from Amazonas, Huánuco, and Pasco, Peru (specimens in LSUMZ) in having barred under tail coverts and a slightly shorter bill (both characters attributed to E Ecuadorian *baezae* – see Short 1982), in being paler and yellower, rather than buff below, and especially in having the outer rectrices uniformly greenish on outer web (only crossed by a narrow buff bar at tip), and barred with 4.5 mm wide dark bars on inner webs. In the other specimens both webs have 2.5–3.5 mm wide bars. The upper tail coverts are almost uniform in the Cutucú and the Huánuco specimens (a character attributed to *valdizani* – see Berlepsch & Stolzmann 1894, Cory 1919). They are distinctly barred in the other 4 specimens,

although both Pasco and Amazonas are within the range of *valdezani*. We have not been able to compare the Cutucú bird with Ecuadorian specimens.

TYRANNINE WOODCREEPER *Dendrocincla tyrannina*

A female collected 16 Jun 1984, at 2240 m, at the second camp in Cordillera Zapote Najda, SE Ecuador, was compared with 24 specimens from Colombia, W Ecuador and Peru south to Cordillera Vilcabamba, Cuzco (specimens in LSUMZ, FMNH, AMNH, ANSP); it did not differ from these in colour or measurements of bill, wings and tail. The only previous authentic specimens from E Ecuador are 2 taken in the Pun region near the Colombian border, presumably at 2200 m. On the basis of their large measurements, particularly the bill, these latter 2 birds were described as a distinct species, *D. macrorhyncha*, by Salvadori & Festa 1899, but *macrorhyncha* has later (though doubtfully) been treated as a subspecies of *D. tyrannina* (Peters 1951). As the Andean slopes of E Ecuador are covered by unbroken suitable habitat, there seems no reason why *D. tyrannina* should not occur throughout; and as no distinct, known species of woodcreeper has a very limited distribution (J. V. Remsen), it seems most likely that *macrorhyncha* represents merely aberrant individuals. The Pun region, however, is still the only known locality for Giant Antpitta *Grallaria g. gigantea*, a very rare inhabitant of swampy forest (R. Bleiweiss).

TAWNY TIT-SPINETAIL *Leptasthenura yanacensis*

A female collected at 4250 m, 3 Dec 1983, in *Polylepis* woodland at Abra Malaga, Cordillera Vilcanota, Cuzco, Peru, does not differ significantly from Bolivian specimens. 2 birds from Cordillera Blanca, Ancash, Peru (LSUMZ) are too worn for direct comparison. Our specimen, and a tail-less female with a brood-patch collected at Abra Malaga by J. O'Neill, 17 Nov 1983, (now in FMNH), are the only 2 specimens taken in SE Peru, though their presence there has been recorded (Parker & O'Neill 1980). At the same site we collected 7 individuals of the White-browed Tit-spinetail *Leptasthenura xenothorax*, Jul and Dec 1983, a species otherwise known only from 3 individuals (USNM, LSUMZ).

MOUSE-COLOURED THISTLETAIL *Schizoeaca griseomurina*

On 12 Jun 1984, a male was collected at 3280 m at the first camp in Cordillera Zapote Najda, SE Ecuador. This is the northernmost record of the species. Birds just to the north (upper Palora valley, Volcan Sangay) are typical *S. fuliginosa*. *S. griseomurina* has recently been recorded from N Peru (Parker *et al.* 1985).

APURIMAC SPINETAIL *Synallaxis courseni*

Recently described on the basis of 3 museum specimens (Blake 1971). We studied this species 7-9 Dec 1983, in the isolated type locality, Bosque Ampay, a *Podocarpus* forest, situated above Abancay in Apurimac, Peru. With extrapolation we estimated the population to be 250-300 pairs. Vocalizations and behaviour were indistinguishable from *S. azarae* and *S. elegantior*, undoubtedly its closest relatives. Usually in pairs, they foraged low, occasionally up to 3 m, in dense undergrowth, vines, bamboo and tangles in the *Podocarpus* forest, and in thickets along small streams below the forest, apparently without very specific habitat requirements. 3 specimens in ZMUC, and an additional 8 specimens in MJPL, LSUMZ and FMNH, all have 10 rectrices and a long tail, a combination of characters shared with *S. elegantior*; while the intervening *S. azarae* has 8 rectrices, and a shorter tail, characters, or

at least that of the reduced number of rectrices, which are probably the result of more recent evolution (Vaurie 1980). However, Vaurie did not guess the true relationship of *courseni*, and placed it with the vocally very different *S. brachyura* on the basis of subtle morphological characters.

SLATE-CROWNED ANTPITTA *Grallaricula nana*

On 16 Jun 1983, the female of a pair was collected on a steep slope with moss-covered trees and little understory at 2260 m at the second camp in Cordillera Zapote Najda, SE Ecuador. This represents the southernmost record of the form in E Ecuador. It hardly differs from 2 Colombian specimens of *G.n. nana* (ANSP), but is distinctly darker than 8 specimens from N Cajamarca, Peru (LSUMZ). The latter series shows considerable variation in the amount of dark edges below.

PERUVIAN ANTPITTA *Grallaricula peruviana*

An immature female (showing narrow rufous tips to the greater wing coverts) was collected in the transitional zone between wet subtropical forest with many recently wind-felled trees, and *Sphagnum*-covered cloud forest at 2100 m on the eastern slope, near the crest of the Cutucú Mts, Morona-Santiago, SE Ecuador, 21 Apr 1984. Compared with 3 females from N Cajamarca, Peru (LSUMZ), it appeared slightly less olive above, and with rather more black edges on the crown than the blackest headed individual, and also differed by its immature wing pattern. This is the first record from Ecuador.

ASH-COLOURED TAPACULO *Myiornis senilis*

The song was tape-recorded in *Chusquea* bamboo at 2750 m at the tunnel in Carpish Mts, Huánuco, Peru, 3-10 Aug 1983, and was later identified by T. A. Parker, who also heard the species at the same locality at a later date. These represent the first records south of E Libertad, Peru, where the species has only recently been found (Parker *et al.* 1985).

ORANGE-BANDED FLYCATCHER *Myiophobus lintoni*

Previously known from 7 specimens taken at 3 different localities: Portete de Tarqui and Mt Imbana, both in Loja, S Ecuador (Schauensee 1951), and Cerro Chinguela, N Cajamarca, Peru (Parker *et al.* 1985). A party of 2 males and 2 females, all immatures moulting into their first adult plumage, were mist-netted in roadside second growth in humid forest on a steep slope, at 2260 m, at the second camp in Cordillera Zapote Najda, SE Ecuador, 19 Jun 1984. The iris varied from pale greybrown to dark brown, and the bill from black maxilla, dull orange mandible with black tip, to black maxilla with dull orange base and sides and entire mandible. All had black tarsi and toes, and remains of insects in their stomachs. All the existing specimens except the juvenile from Cerro Chinguela and perhaps the type (which was not examined), have the wing-bars admixed with a few whitish feathers, a detail not mentioned in the literature, and perhaps attributable to immaturity.

RUFIOUS-CROWNED TODY-TYRANT *Poecilatriccus ruficeps*

An adult male and an immature female were collected at the second camp in Cordillera Zapote Najda, SE Ecuador, Jun 1984. The adult male has a whitish throat, which is distinctly washed with buffy in the immature female. The species has not been recorded south of Tungurahua in E Ecuador (Traylor 1979), but the fairly similar form *peruvianus* is found in N Cajamarca, Peru.

BROWN-CHESTED MARTIN *Progne tapera*

In Colombia known only from lowlands. In Sep 1981, a few hundred of the southern migratory race *fusca* were present in the reed-beds of Lake Tota, 3015 m, and several thousand were seen on pastureland on the Ubaté savanna, 7 Oct 1981.

APOLINAR'S MARSH WREN *Cistothorus apolinari*

Previously recorded from reed-beds on the Bogotá and Ubaté savannas above 2600 m – highest locality Lake Tota, 3015 m (Varty *et al.* 1985). On Oct 1981 its distinctive song was heard among *Typha* sp. in the small subtropical Lake Pedropalo at 2000 m, on the slope towards the Magdalena Valley.

YELLOW-WINGED BLACKBIRD *Agelaius thibillus*

Known to breed south to Chubut, Argentina (Paynter 1968). Several were seen, 14 Nov 1981 in tule marshes around Punta Bandera, at Lago Argentina, Sta Cruz, Argentina.

NORTH AMERICAN MIGRANT WARBLERS *Parulidae*

Migratory movements of *Parulidae* in S America are very poorly known. On 10-11 Apr 1979, migration was pronounced at el Chaco, Río Oyacache, near Baeza, Napo-Pastaza, E Ecuador, c. 1500 m. On 10 Apr we encountered 20 *Wilsonia canadensis* and 15 *Dendroica fusca* close around our camp. Next day, only 2 *Wilsonia canadensis*, 7 *Dendroica fusca* and 1 *Dendroica striata* were seen in the same area. On 3 Nov 1978, 2-3 *Geothlypis agilis*, 2 of which were netted and photographed, arrived at Explorer's Inn, Río Tambopata, Madre del Dios, SE Peru, where they were present at least till 16 Nov. The birds had obviously just arrived when first seen; they were foraging in the middle of an often used trail, which they would only reluctantly leave.

BLUISH FLOWERPIERCER *Diglossa caerulescens*

2 specimens collected at 2100 m on the crest of the Cutucú Mts, Morona-Santiago, SE Ecuador, 21 Apr 1984, are darker, especially on the breast and throat, than are 4 specimens from N Cajamarca, Peru (Cordillera Condor, Carmen Trail). More material is needed to prove the constancy of this difference.

EMERALD TANAGER *Tangara florida*

On 4-12 Jul 1984, 4 specimens were collected at El Placer, 670 m, in northern Esmeraldas, NW Ecuador. Also seen there commonly Mar 1979 and Oct 1983. These are the first specimens from Ecuador, but there have been sight records from Pichincha (Ridgely 1980). The species is distributed in Costa Rica and Panamá, and along the Pacific slope of Colombia, where it was known as far south as Narino.

OCHRE-BREASTED TANAGER *Chlorothraupis stolzmanni*

6 specimens collected 4-12 Jul 1984 at El Placer, 670 m, northern Esmeraldas, NW Ecuador were compared with 10 of *C.s. dugandi* from Río Munchique and from La Costa, both in Cauca, and from La Selva, Caldas Colombia (specimens in ANSP), and with 6 *C.s. stolzmanni* from La Chonta, El Oro, and "Ecuador" (specimens in ANSP, AMNH, FMNH, LSUMZ and ZMUC). *dugandi* differs from *stolzmanni* by having the crown washed with greyish rather than concolorous with the back, and by its paler and buffy, rather than warm yellow ochre central underparts. The El Placer birds average even paler below, and have greyer and slightly paler crowns than Colombian birds (only one Colombian bird can match the greenest-crowned El Placer bird). One LSUMZ specimen from Lita, Imbabura matches the El Placer birds

perfectly. Although not sufficiently different from Colombian birds to warrant subspecific recognition, the El Placer birds are clearly different from *C.s. stolzmanni* of W Ecuador. *C.s. dugandi* is known from the western Andes of Colombia, but has not previously been recorded in Ecuador.

RUFIOUS-CRESTED TANAGER *Creurgops verticalis*

A male collected at 2000 m, 2 km E of Maldonado, Carchi, NW Ecuador, and another observed at 2350 m, 4 km further east, 28-29 Mar 1984 are the first records for W Ecuador. Known from W Colombia.

BLACK-BACKED BUSH-TANAGER *Urothraupis stolzmanni*

2 males collected at 3280 m, 12 Jun 1984, at the first camp in Cordillera Zapote Najda, SE Ecuador, represent the southernmost record of the species, previously known south only to Tungurahua (Paynter 1970). Their stomachs contained insects, seeds and berries.

WHITE-RIMMED BRUSH-FINCH *Atlappetes leucopsis*

On 14 Jun 1980, one seen at 2750 m, at the first camp in Cordillera Zapote Najda, SE Ecuador, was very retiring, and followed a mixed species flock, foraging within 1 m of the ground in the darkest part of the forest undergrowth, moving quickly through the vegetation. This rare and local bird was previously known only from a few localities in southern Colombia and Ecuador.

THICK-BILLED SISKIN *Carduelis crassirostris*

On 3 Dec 1983 a male *C.c. amadoni* was netted from a flock, at 4250 m, in *Polylepis* woodland, Abra Malaga, Cordillera Vilcanota, Cuzco, Peru. Previously known only from Puno, Arequipa, and Tacna S Peru. Restricted to *Polylepis*.

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The type locality of *Anthus brachyurus eludens* Clancey, 1985

by Jack Vincent

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On page 134 of *Bull. Brit. Orn. Cl.* 105 P. A. Clancey described *Anthus brachyurus eludens*. Because I personally collected the type specimen when with Admiral Lynes, I may be permitted to establish accurately the type locality which, as Clancey's paper shows, remains in doubt.